

Harvey A. Pugh House (William Saxton House)
East side of N. Broadway St .
Montour
Gem County
Idaho

HABS No. ID-41

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HARVEY A. PUGH HOUSE - PUGH ELEVATOR, MILL AND WAREHOUSE
(William Saxton House)

Location: East side of North Broadway, north of the rail-
road tracks
Montour, Gem County, Idaho
UTM: 11/554075/4863525

Present Owner: United States Department of the Interior

Present Occupant: Unoccupied

Present Use: Unused

Statement of
Significance: The house is an example of the simple vernacular
adaptation of the bungalow style, mixed
with a few details of the earlier Queen
Anne style. The elevator, mill and ware-
house complex makes use of reinforced
concrete.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Date of erection: House - 1914
Warehouse - 1916
Elevator - 1919
Mill - 1920

Builder: House - unknown
Elevator, Mill, & Warehouse - unknown

Historical Narrative:

The Pugh house was built in 1914, and was occupied in March, 1915. The elevator, mill and warehouse complex was erected in stages between 1916 and 1920, on land that Harvey Pugh had used for a lumber yard. The warehouse was built in 1916. The concrete elevators were begun in mid-1919, and excavations for the mill commenced in the spring of 1920. By July of that year, the mill was ready for a roof. Machinery in the mill Pugh acquired from a mill in Roseberry. Electricity was installed in June, 1921, and flouring operations began in mid-July, 1921.

Harvey A. Pugh came to Idaho from Warrensburg, Missouri. He

lived in Emmett before the turn of the century (he was elected "principal" of the Emmett schools in 1897). Subsequently, Pugh went into the lumber business. Issues of the Emmett Index recount the Pugh family's seasonal comings and goings between their home and the Pugh mill, which was located at Dry Buck, a valley about 20 miles north of Montour. Pugh established a lumber yard at Montour, probably around 1912, when the town was established, which very likely accounted for much of the lumber used to build structures in this community. Pugh moved into Montour in 1915. In 1918 he was elected to the state legislature, and lived with his family in Boise during the legislative sessions. Pugh sold his Montour properties to C. D. Newhouse, son of banker F. I. Newhouse, in 1925.

Bibliography:

Emmett Index: 9 July 1897; 30 April 1914, 8:2; 24 September 1914, 8:1; 18 March 1915, 8:3; 1 April 1915, 4:1; 16 September 1915, 7:1; "Events in Gem County" (1917); 25 July 1919, 10:3; 7 August 1919, 8:3-4; 27 May 1920, 10:1; 1 July 1920, 10:3; 14 July 1921, 8:3-4; 23 June 1921, 1:5.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION - HOUSE

General statement

1. Architectural merit and interest: The house is an example of the simple vernacular adaptation of the bungalow style mixed with a few details of the Queen Anne style which preceded it.
2. Condition of fabric: Good
3. Summary description: One and a half stories, approximately 31 feet by 44 feet, rectangular plan.

Detailed description of exterior

1. Foundations: Of natural dark gray concrete with a smooth cement finish, the foundations vary from 4 to 10 inches in height. The foundation is continuous at the porches as well as at the house. There are several irregular vertical cracks through the foundations.
2. Wall construction: At the base of the wall is a 9½-inch wide wooden beltcourse capped with a watertable molding. The walls are clapboards with 2 ¾-inch exposure and in good condition.
3. Structural system: The house is of wood-frame construction

with wood-joist floor systems and a roof constructed of 2x4 rafters at 2 feet on center. Over these are 1x6 inch boards spaced 3 inches apart, on which the shingles are nailed.

4. Porches, etc.: There is a screened porch across the north side of the house with large, bungalow-style tapered posts, and a wooden floor. The south porch is similar.
5. Chimneys: The chimneys are of concrete block construction (that is, the visible portions projecting above the roof). One is located at the middle of the house and the other at the south slope of the roof near the center.
6. Openings, doorways and doors: The north door from the living room to the porch has its upper portion (approximately two thirds) glazed with beveled plate glass. The door is oak. The door to the south porch has glass at its upper half, a horizontal wood panel below the glass and two vertical wood panels at the bottom of the door.
7. Openings, windows: Windows are generally 1/1 sash. The west window in the livingroom is a single fixed pane probably replacing a pair of original windows. The attic closets have small casement windows.
8. Roof, shape, covering: The roof is a gable with a slightly steeper pitch on the south slope. The roof covering is wood shingles, black in color.
9. Roof, eaves: The rafters project at the eaves. The gables are finished with a large bargeboard supported on triangular wooden brackets. The raking side of the dormer roofs are similar. There is a metal gutter at the north eave.
10. Roof, dormers, etc.: There are dormers in the south and north slopes of the roof, of shed type.

Detailed description of interior

1. Floor plan: The living room extends all the way across the north side of the house, but patches in the floor indicate that the western portion of this was formerly a separate room connected to the living room by a five-foot-wide doorway. Adjoining the living room on the east is the dining room, and next beyond that is the kitchen. On the west side of the house are a bedroom and, at the south corner, a bathroom. There is a hall at the center of the house directly connecting to all rooms but the kitchen and containing the stairway.

At the second floor there are bedrooms at each side of the

stair hall and another bedroom at the north end of the hall.

2. Stairway, location: The stairway is in the central hall. The stair rises to a landing near the top, then doubles back. The treads, risers, balustrade and newell are softwood. The balusters alternate between ones with vertical sides and ones which taper. The detailing is, in general, in the craftsman or bungalow style, but some of the moldings are of curving cross section and do not harmonize.
3. Flooring: In general the flooring is softwood with 3-3/16-inch exposure. Linoleum has been applied in the bath, kitchen, dining room, and first-story hall and bedroom.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Except at the first-story bedroom, all walls have been resurfaced with 3/8-inch-thick gypsum board, as have the ceilings at the second story. The first-story bedroom has its original plaster walls, wallpapered. Its ceiling is gypsum board, furred. At the kitchen, dining room, and living room the ceilings are soft-board tiles 16 inches square, furred down. The four second-floor closets have horizontal board walls.
5. Doorways and doors: The doors are six-panel doors. Door frames are flat, 4-3/8 inches wide at jambs and 4 3/4 inches wide at the heads. A 1/2-inch thick projecting bead molding is at the lower edge of the head trim. Window trim matches the door trim. The use of the bead molding is carried over from the Queen Anne style. The woodwork in the hall is stained dark and given a glossy finish. Elsewhere, woodwork is painted.
6. Interior trim: The doorway between living and dining room is about 13 feet wide. Glass-doored bookcases 4'-8" high reduce the clear width to 6'-4". Tapered piers rise from the inner ends of the bookcases appearing to support the architrave. The exposed ends and backs (facing the dining room) of the bookcases are finished in vertical wood panels. At the dining room wall common to the kitchen there is a built-in buffet with a pass-through to the kitchen. The kitchen cabinetwork is largely much newer than the house.
7. Mechanical and electrical equipment: Stove-pipe thimbles in the kitchen and in the south walls of the dining room and of the bedroom above indicate the use of stoves for cooking and heating. The northern chimney is located so that it could serve stoves in the northwest portion of the house for heating. Presently each room has electric base-board heaters and a thermostat, except that there are small wall-panel electric heaters in the kitchen and bath.

Site and surroundings

1. Orientation and general setting: The house is placed with the kitchen end (south) facing the approach driveway, putting the living room in back. One approaches the house by means of the same graveled driveway that passes on the south side of the Pugh Elevator, Mill and Warehouse. The railroad tracks pass to the south of the house, just beyond the drive, running in an east-northeast direction.
2. Historic landscape design: None
3. Outbuildings: A shed of rectangular plan stands near the south side of the house, its eaves only 6 inches away from those of the house. The room in the shed closer to the house has plastered walls and ceilings and contains well piping and wooden bins. The other room has board walls and seems to be a woodshed. The shed has a gable roof, corrugated iron roofing, and its exterior wall surfaces, eaves, and detailing match the house.

There is a three-stall stable building to the east of the house, sided with clapboards on north and west, plain boards on the other walls, and roofed with aluminum.

PART III. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION - ELEVATOR, MILL AND WAREHOUSE

General statement

1. Architectural merit and interest: The structure is of interest as an example of a small elevator, mill, and warehouse building making use of reinforced concrete.
2. Condition of fabric: The concrete work of the elevator is in fair condition (its exterior surfaces show weathering) and that of the mill is in good condition. The wooden construction of the elevator is in good condition; that of the mill in fair to poor condition. The warehouse is, in general, in good condition.
3. Summary description: The building has three parts which fit into a long rectangle 146'x40'. The elevator comprises the 31 feet farthest from the street; the mill, the middle 30 feet; and the warehouse the 84 feet nearest to the street. The elevator is approximately the same height as the mill which has three stories above a raised basement; the warehouse is one story and lower.

Detailed description of exterior

1. Foundations: The elevator and mill foundations are concrete, matching the wall above. The warehouse foundations are

concrete, about 4 inches wider than the base of the wall at a little above the ground level.

2. Wall construction: At the elevator, the cylindrical bins have door-sized openings broken through their walls at ground level. Here the concrete of the walls is 6 inches thick and is reinforced with twisted square bars $7/8$ inches in diameter ($5/8$ inch on a side of the square) placed vertically at 24 inches on center, and $5/8$ -inch-diameter bars spaced horizontally irregularly from 10 to 14 inches on center. The round bars are outside of the vertical bars. Two layers of twisted wire mesh are placed outside of the vertical bars and within the horizontal bars. The inner of these meshes is 6 inches square; the outer is 6 inches by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches (the latter dimension taken vertically). The exterior surface of the bins is covered with $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-thick stucco, coated with flaking white paint. The stucco is quite hard, not weathered; but much of it has fallen off the walls. Here the concrete is exposed and quite weathered, allowing the river-gravel aggregate of about 2-inch maximum size to be seen. Also visible in the concrete are what appear to be the marks of the many separate pourings of concrete. I do not think these lines are the marks of the forms, because the weathering often differs at adjacent "bands," as though the consistency of the concrete varied in them. The lines between these pourings are not level lines and are quite pronounced.

The mill walls are finished the same as the elevator, but the stucco has not fallen away except in a small area at the northeast corner. Here the markings of formboards about 10 inches wide may be seen and the markings of the separate pourings of concrete are about four feet apart. At the north and south walls there are three recessed panels a story, comprising most of the area of the walls. These panels are recessed $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The wall thicknesses measured at these recesses are 10, 8, and 6 inches respectively at first, second and third stories.

The warehouse walls are of smooth, plywood-formed concrete for approximately the lower 3 feet, unpainted. Above, corrugated iron siding with a tight brownish rust covers the rest of the walls. The siding sheets are placed with their narrow dimension horizontal, about 24 inches and nine corrugations. The sheets are lapped at their sides and ends.

3. Structural system: The elevators are of bearing wall construction. They are roofed by wood joists and planks, with a concrete deck poured on top of the planks. The joists radiate from the center of the group of four cylindrical bins. A beam of laminated 2-inch-thick members traverses the inner portion of each cylinder on a diagonal

under the joists.

The mill is divided into two parts (not three, as the exterior treatment indicates) by a line of posts and beams running north-south one foot west of the center of the mill. At the first story, three 10" x 10" posts support a 10" x 12" beam; at the second and third stories the posts are 8" x 8" and the beams 8" x 10". The third story beams rest on 8" x 8" bolsters. The framing of the second and third stories and of the roof deck is 2x10s at 12 inches on centers. Where large hoppers penetrate the framing of the second story floor, openings have been cut and three joists interrupted. No headers have been installed at these places, only solid blocking - an instance of apparent ignorance. Where the mill connects to the central passage of the elevator, one can see that the two structures have their separate walls, side by side.

The warehouse wall and ceiling finishes inside and outside conceal the structural system. It appears to be of some sort of frame and truss system, probably of wood. The roof spans clear across the width of the building.

4. Porches: None
5. Chimneys: There is a brick chimney built within the southwest corner concrete walls of the mill.
6. Openings, doorways and doors: At the east end of the elevator is the framed opening for a large door, but the door is missing. The frame is wood.

At the mill on the north and south sides is a door 3'-6" wide by 6'-7" high, 1½" thick with three lights above two vertical panels. The frames are 2-inch-thick wood.

At the warehouse on the south side is a boarded-up opening for a wide sliding door, with evidence - wood anchorage for a horizontal track - of another possible opening. At the street (west) end is a pair of bright aluminum-covered sliding doors. On the north side is a sliding door, partly extant and sheathed in corrugated iron siding. There is a "man door" to the left of this.

7. Openings, windows and shutters: There are no windows in the elevator, but on the south side there are three small window-like, wood-framed openings in each bin.

In the mill there are windows at each of the three stories and the basement. The first and second story windows are 6/6 sash, all broken and some removed. The third-story windows have been removed, and the basement openings have

been boarded over.

There are no windows in the warehouse.

8. Roof, shape, covering: The roof deck of the elevator is of concrete and slopes up gently from the outer edges to the base of the central monitor-like structure. The deck probably was covered with the same roofing material as that of the mill.

The mill roof has a ridge running north-south and slopes down two feet to the side walls. The roof deck is a 4-inch-thick concrete slab poured on the wooden roof construction. There is evidence of asphalt roofing on top of the concrete.

The warehouse roof is a gable covered with green mineral-surfaced, hexagonal asphalt shingles. The shingles are quite weathered. "Montour" is painted in upper case yellow letters near the ridge on the north slope.

9. Roof, cornice, eaves: At the elevator on the north and south sides the concrete deck originally projected so that its edge formed a line tangent to outermost points of the cylindrical bins. Part of this projecting deck remains intact at the north side; less of it at the south, where only the reinforcing now remains. This is of bars of rail-shaped cross section and wire mesh resembling the 6-inch square wire mesh seen in the bin walls below. Elsewhere at the elevator there is evidence that the concrete deck projected slightly beyond the walls to form a small cap molding matching that at the walls of the mill.

At the mill the north and south walls have a parapet at the center, a little more than one-third of the width of these walls. On each side of this parapet the roof deck projects slightly. A cap molding carries this same projection around the ends and top of the parapet.

At the warehouse the gable roof forms a slight projection at gable end and at eaves.

10. Roof, dormers, etc.: At the center of the elevator roof is a monitor-type structure with a heavy timber frame projecting above its roof, which is hipped and covered with wood shingles. The walls slope inward and are covered with corrugated iron siding. The structure has openings in the wall toward the mill.

The mill roof has a six-foot-wide opening centered on most of the length of the ridge, with two timbers rising on a slope from the posts which support the mill roof and passing through this opening. Below the opening are numerous small penetrations of the floor of the third story, as for grain chutes.

Detailed description of interior

1. Floor plans: The elevator has two cylindrical bins next to each other on the north side and on the south side. A central passage separates these pairs of bins and runs east-west from the mill at first story level. The upper levels of this passage space contain a shaft that connects to the roof monitor, but appears to contain other interior spaces as well, inaccessible from below or from the adjacent mill.

The three floors of the mill are free of partitions, and the space below the first story was inaccessible.

The warehouse consists of one unobstructed interior space.

2. Stairways: There is a wooden stairway at the northwest corner of the mill, ascending from the first to the third floor. Treads are 1 1/8-inches thick and risers are 3/4-inches thick.
3. Flooring: In the elevator there is concrete flooring in the cylindrical bins. At the central passage there is evidence of a wooden floor system at the same level as the first story floor of the mill, but this system has been removed and the ground is visible.

In the mill, the first story has softwood matchboard flooring, 3 1/4 inches exposed, laid over 1" x 8" diagonally laid boards. At the second and third stories the flooring consists of a double layer of 3/4" x 7 1/2" matchboard softwood flooring. Both layers are laid at right angles to the joists, with their joints staggered.

The floor of the warehouse is a concrete slab with steel-trowel finish. Two-inch wood screeds remain in the floor.

4. Wall and ceiling finish: In the elevator, the bins have the exposed concrete finish, and at the top of them may be seen the exposed roof joists. The ceiling of the central passage is rough two-inch wood, appearing to be the edges of laminated construction. The walls of the shaft leading to the roof monitor are of this material also. The side walls of this passage-way have a finish matching that of the concrete of the elevator.

The walls of the mill are of unfinished concrete. Overhead the joists are exposed.

The warehouse walls are of 1-inch by 12-inch rough softwood boards laid diagonally at building corners and horizontally elsewhere. The ceiling is of sheets of softwood plywood.

5. Doorways and doors: Connecting the mill and the warehouse is a sliding fire door 2½-inches thick on a sloping metal track. This door is covered in sheet steel with interlocking seams. The steel is embossed "American 8-pound coating copper steel." Connecting the mill and the elevator at the first floor is an opening which has been widened from a doorway 4'-4" wide to one about 7'-8" wide.
6. Interior trim: None
7. Hardware: The two exterior doors of the mill have surface-mounted latchsets. The exterior sliding door of the warehouse has wheel-and-track hardware.
8. Mechanical and electrical equipment: A large electrical conduit penetrates near the top of the west wall of the mill toward the north corner of this wall. Wires hang from it, cut. The monitor of the elevator contains wheels which may be seen through the door in its west wall. Nothing else remains of the elevator or the mill machinery.

The warehouse is unheated. It has minimal electric lighting and electrical convenience outlets spaced from 6 to 10 feet apart, about three feet above floor level, around the perimeter of the interior.

Site and surroundings

1. Orientation: The long sides of the building group face north and south. To the south lie two parallel railroad tracks, the closer one a siding. The western (warehouse) end faces the street. A graveled drive gives access to the south side of the mill and elevator, and then further eastward to the Harvey Pugh house.
2. Historical landscape design: None
3. Outbuildings: None

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by Dennett, Muessig & Associates, Iowa City, Iowa, in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Region. It fulfills the Bureau of Reclamation's obligations under a memorandum of agreement between the Bureau, the State of Idaho, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, pursuant to 36 CFR 800. The structure was photographed, measured, and drawn March - September, 1979 by Sarah J. Dennett and Hans Muessig, Project Supervisors; Wesley I. Shank, Project Architectural Historian/Historical Architect, (Iowa State University); Martha H. Bowers, Project Historian; Robert A. Ryan, Project Photographer; and Philipp Muessig, Project Assistant.

APPENDIX

CHAIN OF TITLE:
HARVEY A. PUGH HOUSE - PUGH ELEVATOR, MILL AND WAREHOUSE

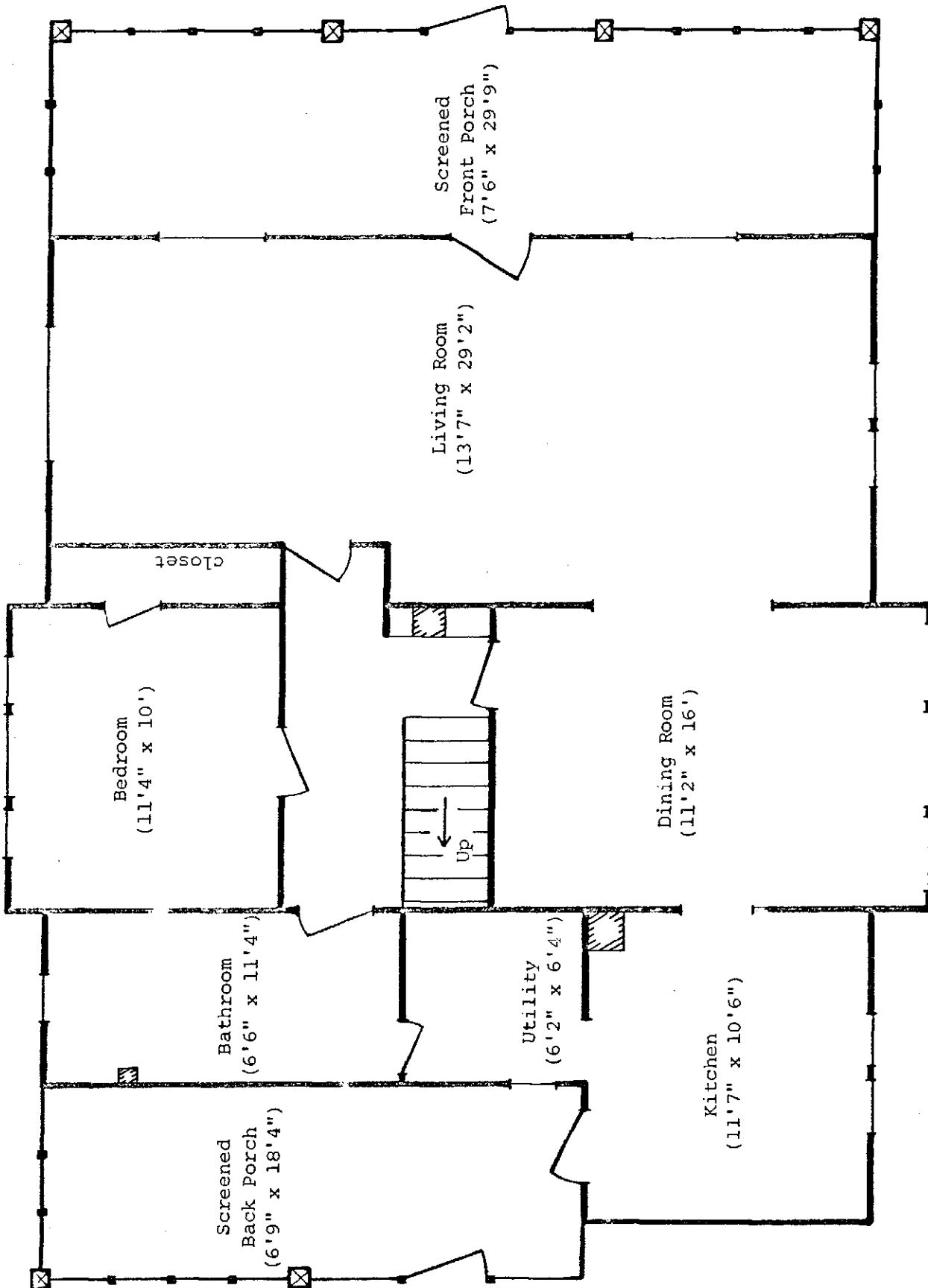
Description: Lot 23, Montour townsite, T7N R1E, Boise Meridian

Reference: Recorder's Office, Gem County Courthouse, Emmett, Idaho

- 1920 Deed 24 November 1920
Recorded 6 April 1921
Book 14 Deeds, p. 219
Dewey Investment Co.
to
H. A. Pugh
- 1925 Deed 21 January 1925
Recorded 25 January 1925
Book 16 Deeds, p. 271
Harvey A. Pugh & Ethel Pugh
to
C.D.Newhouse
- 1936 Decree of Distribution 30 December 1936
Recorded 2 January 1937
Book 2 Probate, p. 79
Estate of C. D. Newhouse, Deceased
to
Clara Newhouse, R. E. Newhouse, Lucile Newhouse,
Ruth N. Burton, C. M. Newhouse, D. S. Newhouse,
Pauline N. Oberholtzer
- 1943 Deed 28 April 1943
Recorded 27 February 1945
Book 29 Deeds, p. 1
Ruth N. Burton, D. S. Newhouse, Pauline N. Oberholtzer,
Clara Newhouse, Lucile Newhouse, C. M. Newhouse &
R. E. Newhouse
to
J. H. Curtis
- 1948 Decree of Settlement and final Distribution
3 December 1948
Recorded 28 February 1949
Estate of Anna B. Curtis, Deceased
to
Josiah H. Curtis

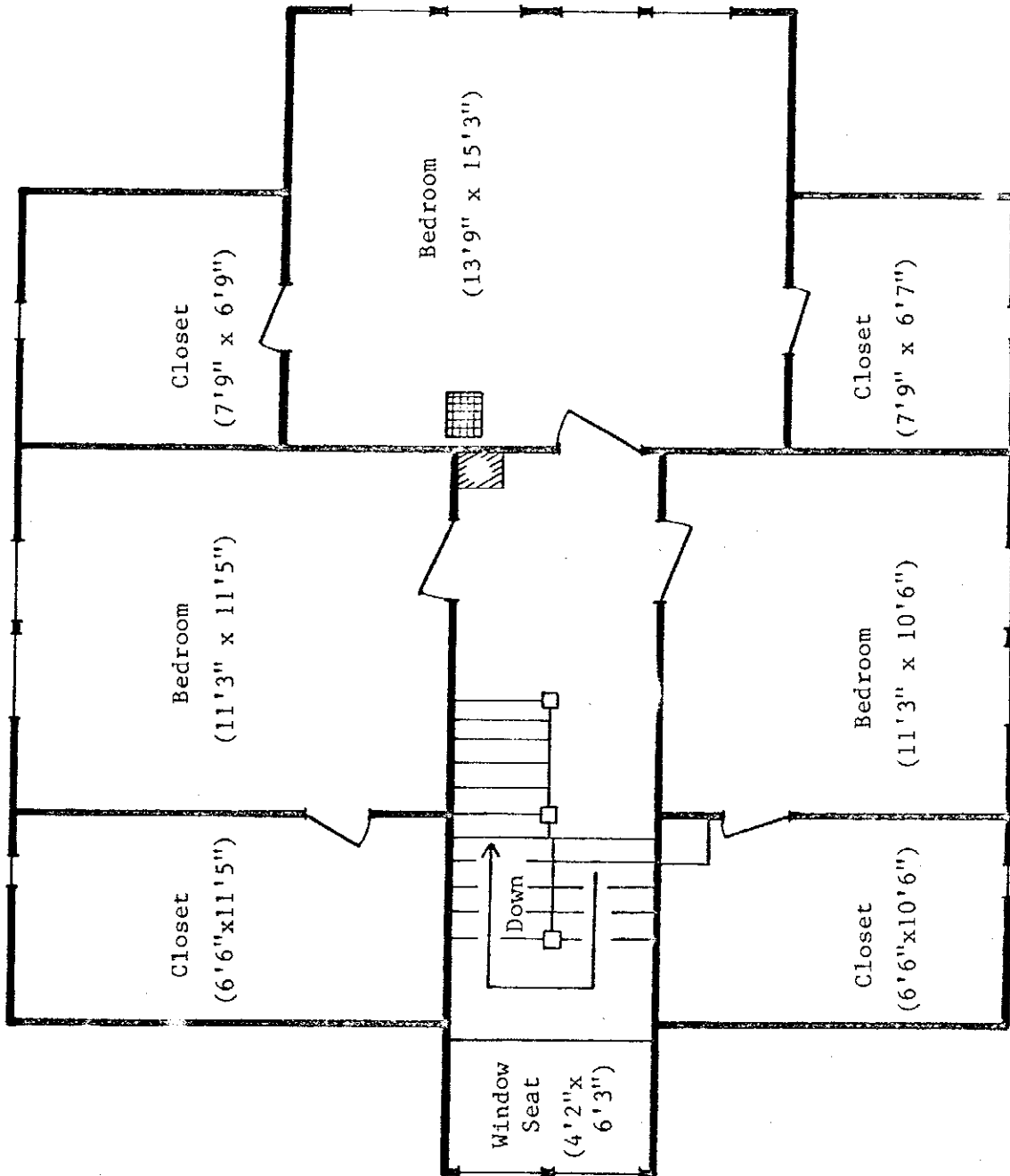
Continued - Chain of Title, Harvey A. Pugh House, Mill, elevator &
Warehouse

- 1961 Decree of Distribution 3 February 1961
Recorded 3 February 1961
Book 4 Probate, Instrument # 81589
Estate of J. H. Curtis, Deceased
to
Lillian M. Curtis, Thomas H. Curtis, & John Curtis
- 1960 Probate Deed 20 April 1960
Filed 18 February 1964
Book 41 Deeds, Instrument #87341
Thomas H. Curtis, executor J. H. Curtis Estate
to
Nelson R. Mabee & Marjorie Mabee
- 1976 Deed 10 December 1976
Filed 13 December 1976
Deed Instrument # 118474
William Saxton & Karen Saxton, & Nelson R. Mabee &
Marjorie Mabee
to
U. S. A.



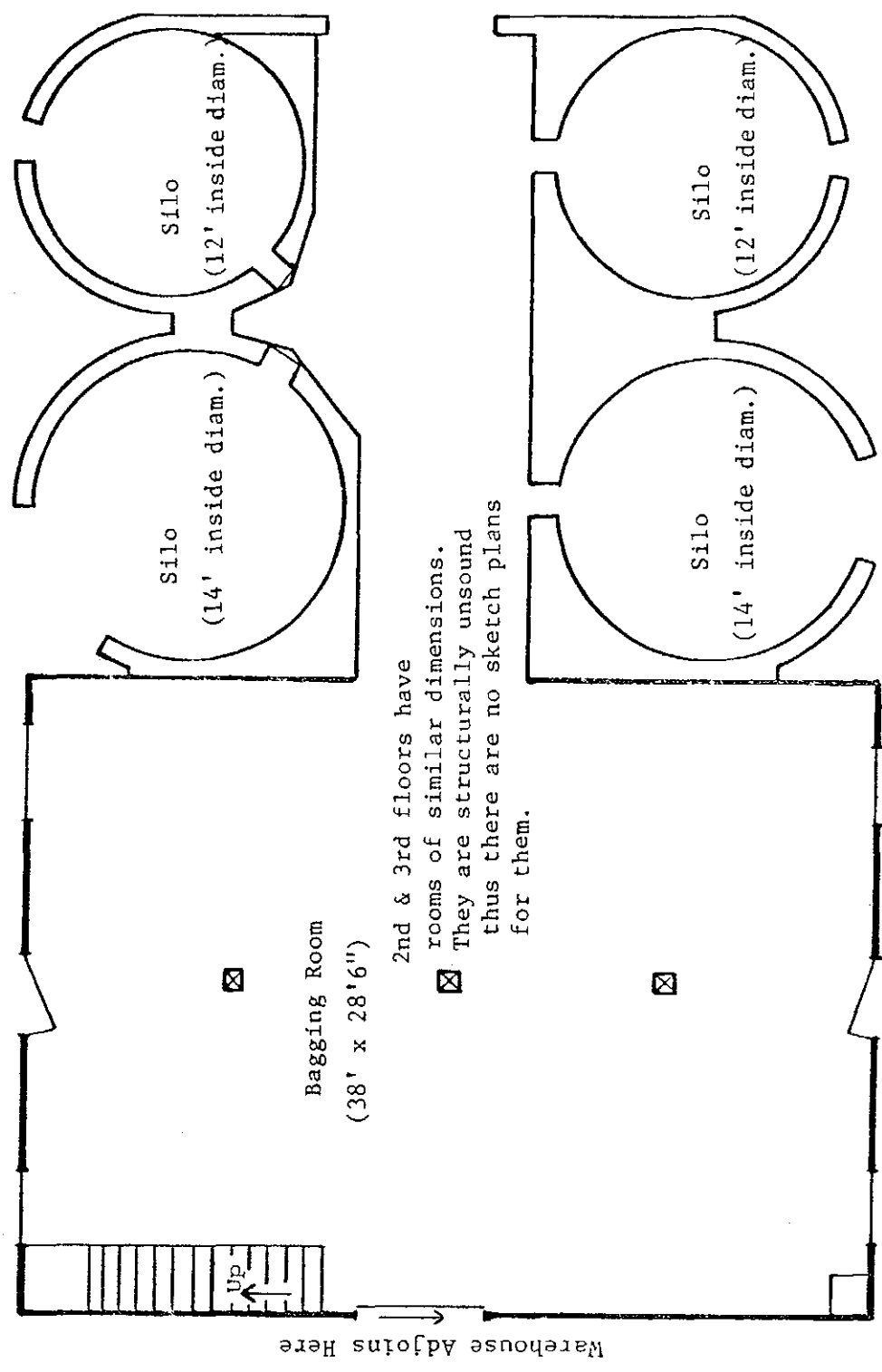
N

HARVEY PUGH HOUSE
approx. 3/16 scale



HARVEY PUGH HOUSE - Second Floor
approx. 3/16 scale

N



PUGH ELEVATOR, MILL & WAREHOUSE NA
Elevator & Mill - Ground Floor
approx. 1/8 scale

Elevator & Mill attach here

HARVEY A. PUGH HOUSE, ELEVATOR, MILL & WAREHOUSE
(William Saxton House)
HABS No. ID-41
(Page 16)

(80'2" x 39'3")

N

PUGH ELEVATOR, MILL & WAREHOUSE

Warehouse

approx. 1/8 scale